Allotment of petrol pumps in Himachal Pradesh

3510. SHRI SURESH BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of petrol pumps (retail outlets) allotted by public sector oil marketing companies *viz.* Indian Oil corporation Limited., Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd., Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. and Indo-Burman Petroleum Corporation Ltd. in Himachal Pradesh during the period from May, 2004 to 28 Feb., 2005 alongwith names and addresses of allottees company-wise; and

(b) what was the criteria and the procedure adopted for the allotment?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) The public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs), *viz.*; Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and IBP Co. Ltd. (IBP), allotted 109 retail outlet dealerships (petrol pumps) in the State in Himachal Pradesh during the period May, 2004 to February, 2005.

The OMC-wise position is as under:—

IOCL	-	57	nos.
HPCL	-	14	nos.
BPCL	-	18	nos.
IBP	-	20	nos.
TOTAL	-	**109**	**nos.**

The details of the allottees are available with the Director (Marketing) of the companies concerned.

(b) The public sector OMCs have framed guidelines for selection/allotment of dealerships/distributorships, including retail outlet dealerships. These guidelines contain detailed provisions, including objective and transparent criteria for evaluation of candidates, applying for allotment of such dealerships/distributorships.

Issue of bonds by Oil Companies

3511. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Governemnt have any plan to float Oil Bonds to cover up the losses that are being incurred by Public Sector Oil Companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are giving subsidy on petrol, diesel, kerosense and cooking gas; and

(d) the losses that the oil companies are incurring due to subsidy given to the items at (c) above during the last three years, year-wise and item-wise?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) As per the Government's decision, consequent to the dismantling of the Administered Pricing Mechanism (APM) effective 1st April 2002, the oil pool accounts was also wound up *w.e.f.* 1st April 2002. With a view to partially liquidating the outstandings of the oil comapnies against the oil pool account, Government issued oil bonds amounting to Rs. 9000 crore on 30th March, 2002. It was further decided that the balance outstanding payable to the oil companies from the oil pool accounts as on 1.4.2002 would be liquidated by issuance of Special Government Bonds after completion of Special Audit of oil pool accounts, as directed by Comptroler & Auditor General (CAG). On completion of the Special Audit, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoP&NG) has requested the Ministry of Finance to issue bonds amounting to Rs. 5762.85 crore to oil companies

(c) and (d) Government is currently providing subsidy on PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG to the public sector oil marketing companies. However, no subsidy is given for petrol and diesel.

In addition to the subsidy given by the Government, PSU oil marketing companies have following under-recoveries on PDS kerosene and domestic LPG during the last three years:

(Rs. in crore)

Item	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05 (estimated)
PDS Kerosene	2067	3752	9316
Domestic LPG	3363	5523	8404
TOTAL:	*5430*	*9275*	*17720*